

Message Text

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14

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 H-02 L-03 DHA-02 SCA-01 PRS-01

/020 W

----- 055418

R 110306Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4866

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 6465

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (GOULD, FRANK)

SUBJECT: W/W FRANK GOULD

REF: (A) STATE 113144; (B) MANILA 5190; (C) CEBU 087

1. IN VIEW FACT PROF. GOULD UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE THAT MUCH MATERIAL ON MUSLIM REBELLION HAS IN FACT BEEN CARRIED IN PRESS, EMBASSY WOULD PREFER TO MODIFY LANGUAGE IN PARA 2 REFTEL A AS FOLLOWS: (FIRST SENTENCE AS IS) "OUR CONCLUSION IS THAT MASSIVE RESEARCH EFFORT REQUIRED WOULD BE FUTILE SINCE AVAILABLE INFORMATION IS BOTH INCOMPLETE AND OFTEN HIGHLY INACCURATE. SITUATION IN SOUTH HAS BEEN FLUID SINCE WELL BEFORE PERIOD OF FRANK'S DISAPPEARANCE. FACT THAT RECORD MAY EXIST OF BATTLES OR AMBUSHINGS IN CERTAIN AREAS WOULD BY NO MEANS RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT SIMILAR EPISODES OF WHICH WE ARE NOT AWARE MIGHT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN AREAS WHERE NO SUCH RECORD EXISTS." DELETE LANGUAGE BEGINNING "OUR CONCLUSION..." AND ENDING "...DOMESTIC AFFAIRS." WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID SUGGESTING THAT GOP IS NOT BEING FORTHCOMING (FOR WHATEVER REASONS). GOULD RELATIVES ARE ALREADY INCLINED TO BELIEVE WITHOUT ANY EVIDENCE THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THAT MILITARY HAVE ATTEMPTED TO COVER UP FRANK'S DEATH AND WE DO NOT WANT TO

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ENCOURAGE THEM IN THIS BELIEF.

2. NO REPLY RECEIVED TO CEBU'S 087 FROM POLICE
CHIEF OF SIBUTU BUT RESPONSE FROM OTHER MILITARY
AUTHORITIES IN AREA HAS BEEN NEGATIVE. EMBASSY
IS STILL AWAITING REPLY FROM GUARANO (REFTEL B).
SULLIVAN

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